

MINUTES
SUSTAINABLE SHEBOYGAN TASK FORCE

Thursday, July 11, 2013 at 12:00 PM

City Hall, 828 Center Avenue, Sheboygan Wisconsin
Third Floor Conference Room

Present: Scott Hanson, Jeanne Kliejunas, Greg Ryan, Ted Vallis, Vickie Hall, Kevin Struck, Laura Gumm, Mark Albert, Damian Nevers, Mayor Vandersteen, John Hill, Brian Schwaller and Jim Amadeo

Excused: Kevin Matichek, Daryl Carlson, Mark Pawasarat, Chad Pelishek, Aaron Brault, Pete Pittner

Citizen Observers: Pete Flaner, Milt Storm

Secretary Kliejunas called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M. (quorum present) and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The May 9, 2013 minutes were approved.

Solar Energy Proposal Review – City Administrator/Finance Director Jim Amadeo gave reasons why the Solar Energy Study was filed by Finance Committee in November, 2012. Some reasons were - the city has already reduced our energy usage and are now in a higher rate due to reduction, the city can borrow at a lower rate than was quoted in the proposal, the city would not benefit from the tax credits, we couldn't sell energy back to the grid because of project size, buildings all need new roofs before equipment could be placed, and it is not unique technology, which means the proposal would have to go out for competitive bid.

The Task Force appreciated Mr. Amadeo's comments and asked about doing one building only and what are the payback guidelines for city projects of this sort. In the future, the task force will be more careful to follow proposals all the way through the legislative process so that it can give and receive timely information on its proposals.

Mayor Vandersteen's three sustainability issues – Mayor Vandersteen gave an update saying he is pursuing more information and collaboration on the hot asphalt process, one garbage truck is being considered for CNG fuel, and he is looking into scoring for green municipalities with other cities. The Task Force will try to address these issues through its various focus groups. Mark Albert, Sustainability Manager at Sargento, has also been tracking CNG fuel use. It was suggested that the Education/Promotion group take up the Mayor's issues possibly through a regular newspaper column from the mayor and put more recent city advances, such as the micro-turbine success at the waste water treatment plant.

FOCUS GROUPS:

Energy (Ted Vallis, Laura Gumm, Mark Pawasarat, Brian Schwaller, Mark Albert and Kevin Matichek)

Ted Vallis and group see their role becoming more a reporting function than an initiating one for the city. The city seems to be interested only in ideas that don't cost money. The energy focus group sees the need to interact with and educate the city decision makers better about the social, economic and environmental impacts as well as cost.

Water & Natural Resources (Scott Hanson, Vickie Hall, Damian Nevers and Pete Pittner) – Various garden sites along the city's "rail trail" have been identified by Scott, Pete and Damian.

Transportation & Planning (Aaron Brault, Kevin Struck and Chad Pelishek)

Education & Promotion (Greg Ryan, John Hill and Jeanne Kliejunas) – Our city website is being updated with new information and will continue to keep things current. Composting information was recently added.

Action for next meeting – *Each focus group will reevaluate their task and approach in light of recent task force discussions.*

Next meeting – Sept 12, 2013 noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Kliejunas, Secretary